BIGGEST GUN EVER MADE.

MONSTER PIECES OF ORDNANCE TO PROTECT NEW YORK HARBOR.

In Turrets on Romer Shoals—A Terrible Engine of War Which Will Fire a Three-Quarter Ton Shot Twelve Miles.

The defense of the harbor of New York is considered by the war department as deserving the earliest consideration, says the New York Herald, and the attention of the chief of ordnance is particularly directed at the present time to hurrying to completion the great 16-inch breach-loading gun now under construction at Watervliet arsenal.

This will be the largest gun yet built by the United States, and will be the first of eighteen similar guns which it is proposed shall in time constitute a part of the defense of New York.

The contract for the forgings of this first test gun was made with the Bethlehem Iron Company just a year ago, under the provisions of the fortification act of June 6, 1896. The necessity of using nickel steel for the larger forgings has delayed the delivery of materials somewhat and the progress of construction has therefore not been as satisfactory as the ordnance officials have desired. The forgings have been arriving at Watervliet, however, for some weeks past, and it is thought that the parts will all be assembled and the gun ready for testing at the proving grounds at Sandy Hook within eight months if no unforeseen delays occur.

A great deal of secrecy has long been maintained by the ordnance and engineer departments at Washington as to where this first gun was intended to be set up. It is now known, however, that both of these departments approve of the proposition of Representative Fischer, of New York, to mount six guns of this type in turrets on Romer shoal.

There are thirty-five acres included in the line of Romer shoal, marking a depth of six feet or less, and, owing to the abundance of material at hand this could be filled up to about three or four feet above high tide at comparatively small expense. Mr. Fischer proposes to place three turrets, carrying two 16-inch guns each, on this thirty-five-acre artificial island.

The tuurets which are propesed will be probably of the Gruson type, of turtle-back shape, largely used by both the French and Germans along the Franco-German frontier, at Spezzia, Italy, and other points in Europe. They will be built on massive foundations of concrete, inside which will be subterranean chambers, to include the machinery for working the guns and turrets.

The advantage of steel turrets of this type in such a location are complete protection, limited only by the thickness of the armor and the size of the port. The curvature is unfavorable to penetration, and it presents a very small target. It has the advantage of all around fire. The guns are combined in one protection, especially overhead from shrapnel and splinters. The conning tower affords a wide field of view for aiming purposes. The cost of each of these guns is estimated at $100,000, each carriage, $35,000, and each turret fully as much as one of the guns.

Probably no ship will ever be built that will be able to withstand the fire of 16-inch guns at a range of four or five miles, and a vessel could not enter New York harbor without passing in direct range of the guns of the shoal.

The powers of the new guns are yet to be tested, but it is estimated by officers of the ordnance department that the impact of a shot from one of them on an armored ship of the size of the Paris at a distance of five miles would be equal to the concussion of that ship going at full speed with another of 10,000 tons going at the same rate. It is also estimated that a shot at such a distance would penetrate twenty oak vessels chained together. Guns of this type abroad have caused a breach twenty feet deep in solid masonry. The limit of range of the guns is about twelve miles.

GUN TURRETS TO PROTECT NEW YORK HARBOR.

USES KANGAROO TENDONS.

Broken Bones of an Injured California Painter Are Tied Together.

Isaac Timmins, who is at the Alameda county, Cal., infirmary, has had the broken bones of his leg tied together with kangaroo tendons in order that he may regain the use of that limb.

Timmins is a painter, and while working on the roof of the Oakland theater, August 21, he slipped and fell to the ground. His left leg was broken and was also torn about the knee joint. He was treated at the receiving hospital and discharged as cured a few weeks ago. Last week he broke the same leg in the same place and was again taken to the hospital. It was found that the injury was serious, and that something would have to be done to bind the bones together.

"To rest the factrure and place the limb in a plaster cast until the bones knit would destroy the use of the knee joint," said Dr. Stratton, "and we have treated the fracture differently. We made an incision into the leg at the point of fracture of the bone and bored holes in the broken bone. Through the holes we drew kangaroo tendons and they will hold the bones together until they knit without the use of a plaster cast.

"The kangaroo tendon is as strong as silver wire, as it is taken from the tail of the kangaroo, and being animal in its nature it is absorbed, and the leg does not have to be again cut open, as is necessary when silver wire is used."

CLIFF DWELLERS NOT EXTINCT.

A Tribe of Them Has Been Discovered in the Sierra Madre Mountains.

Scientific men have explored Southern Colorado and Arizona to investigate the dwelling places left by a race of extinct cave dwellers. This people, supposed to be extinct, are still in existence, although in process of extinction. In the Sierra Madre mountains in Mexico, where they are known to the natives as Torahumaris, some of these ancient people still live.

The Torahumaris are genuine cavedwellers. They are below the medium height, are thin to the point of emaciation, of a light cream color, and have long, glossy black hair. They wear goat skin sandals, and wrap themselves in coarse blankets of goats' hair, made by themselves.

They are the finest type living to-day of primeval man. They are reserved, timid and gentle, and, living in the nearly inaccessible portions of the Sierra Madre mountains, they have little or no communication with the natives. It must be remembered that there are portions of the Sierra Madre mountains which have never as yet been explored, and are unknown country.

These people live in caves and cliffs in the limestone rocks, which they reach by notched sticks, hauling them up after them with the agility of monkeys. They hate the Mexicans, and are in mortal terror of the white man, and flee from him as a fawn, and hide themselves in their caves. They plow the ground with a stick in the narrow, deep canons, and subsist upon the flesh of the goat and the wild deer.

The word Torahumari in the Mexican-Indian language means runner, and they are said to be fleet of foot. The most marvelous stories are told of their fleetness and endurance.

It is said to be impossible to run one of them down with a horse, and in long distances they are said to exhibit the most wonderful staying power. The Jesuit fathers claim that some of them have been converted to Christianity, but mostly they are non-worshipers of any kind, having no definite ideas. It is estimated that there are still about 3,000 of these strange people scattered through the most retired parts of the Sierra Madre mountains.

SOAP MADE FROM PEANUTS.

It May Rival That Manufactured From Olive Oil—Other Uses of the Peanut.

In view of the fact that there is a superabundance of peanuts raised every year in Virginia, North Carolina and other parts of the South, the suggestion is made that peanut oil be used more extensively in pharmacy, and be permitted to take the place, to a certain extent, of olive oil, says the Pittsburg Dispatch. Prof. S. P. Sadtler recently produced an experimental soda soap from the oil extracted from American peanuts. In reporting this fact, he remarked significantly that the bulk of the castile soap made in Marseilles is made from African peanut oil. The average grade of American peanuts is slightly inferior to the East African peanut in oil-producing value, but experience has demonstrated the excellent quality of the American peanut oil.

Foreign peanut oil comes to this country in large quantities under different names, much of it is labeled "virgin olive oil." Professor Sadtler says of his experiments with oil from Virginia peanuts: "The cold-pressed oil is of a pale yellow color, and of a pleasant flavor and odor. A very slight refining makes it agreeable table oil for salads and other culinary purposes. It has already been noted with English peanut oil (and I can confirm it from my experience with American oil) that when once freed from the free acid found in the raw state it does not tend to become rancid as easily as olive oil. I have exposed samples to strong sunlight for weeks without developing the slightest rancidity."

There has been comparatively little attention given to the production of peanut oil in this country, and at present it is not an important element in commerce. However, as the chemical composition of the peanut becomes better known attention is drawn to the food value of the peanut found that they are richer in nitrogenous meal and the peanut grits. In has been principles than any of the vegetable seed cakes.

"It must be hard to lose one's mind," said the thoughtful boarder. "It ought to be easy, if your head is cracked," said the cheerful idiot.—Indianapolis Journal.

A BEAUTIFUL ALTAR.

From the Pittsburg Dispatch.

The altar recently consecrated in the church of the convent of Mount Notre Dame, at Reading, O., is without peer in this country. In beauty of design, in fineness of workmanship, in the chaste splendor of its shimmering fabrics, it rivals the finest altars that the Old World can boast.

The magnificent structure is erected by the munificence of a former pupil of the convent school, which is known as "The Mountain." Miss Alice Hays, the donor, has certainly bestowed her money to good purpose for her name will be perpetuated by a truly splendid work of art.

The altar is built in the Roman style of architecture. It is a combination of Carrara and other varieties of white marble, inlaid with Mexican onyx. There are forty onyx pillars, large and small, with ornate capitals in marble.

KANSAS CITY'S AQUA PURA.

MICROSCOPIC ORGANISMS FOUND IN MISSOURI RIVER WATER.

No Trace of Typhoid Fever Germs Were Found—The City Has One of the Healthiest Sources of Supply in the World.

The following report, which was written for and reprinted from the National Druggist for January, is by Owen W. Krueger, Ph. G., M. D., demonstrator of bacteriology at the University Medical college:

During the past three months I have carried on a systematic and careful microscopical and bacteriological examination of our Missouri river water, taken from city hydrants, and from the main stream at points both above and below the source of our city supply, and near sewer outlets on the city's river front. The object of the examination was:

First—To look for typhoid fever germs.

Second—To study the various germs that could be found, and ascertain if they were pathogenic or non-pathogenic.

Third—To learn whether the water should be looked upon with suspicion on account of the amount or number of bacteria it contained.

All of these questions are of the utmost importance when it is remembered that the consensus of opinions among our best physicians and bacteriologists is to the effect that typhoid fever, Asiatic cholera and like scourges are brought by germs taken into the system by way of the alimentary canal. The conditions favoring the outbreaks of typhoid fever and diseases of like character have long served as a fruitful topic for discussion.

Two different theories are advanced. One is the ground water theory so ardently supported by Von Pettenkofer and his followers; the other is the drinking water theory advanced by bacteriologists, of whom Koch is the acknowledged leader.

The first school claims that these diseases are brought on by alterations in the soil and fluctuations in the level of the soil water, claiming that the condition of the drinking water plays but a small part in bringing on the diseases.

The second school, the bacteriologists, points to the germs found in the drinking water, and shows where the use of the polluted water has been the direct cause of these diseases. This, too, has often happened when the state of the soil water was just the reverse of what it should have been to favor the outbreak of an epidemic.

It is obvious, therefore, that a thorough bacteriological examination, at stated times, of all water used for domestic purposes is of prime importance to the health and longevity of the community. A water inspector is just as much a necessity to a city as a milk inspector, or a meat inspector. The bacteriological examination of water should be a regular procedure in all communities where the source of supply is liable to pollution. Water supply so located as to contain sewage is, of course, a source of the greatest and most imminent danger. Wells, in a large city, are peculiarly liable to pollution from surface water and seepage through the soil and rock strata from improper yard vaults.

The peculiar odor we find at various times in drinking water is due to the different living and dead micro-organisms, dead vegetable matter, and to a certain form of amoebaea. The taste, in addition to these ingredients, is due to the amount of salts and minerals the water contains. The amoebaea is a creature composed of a single cell. It has no lungs, yet it breathes; no mouth, still it eats; no definite shape, yet it grows; no nerves, yet it is sensitive; no sex, but still it may give birth to endless progeny. These creatures are found in infinite numbers in our drinking water at all seasons of the year, but have no special disease producing powers.

Even the comparatively pure water of any running stream contains great numbers of bacteria, which find a normal habitat in its waters, and multiply abundantly. Water in stagnant pools, and in streams where sewage is discharged, contains not only a much larger number, but a greater variety, of species. Some scientists claim that only underground water from the deepest sources is free from bacteria, but I have never found any water so deep that it did not not contain these micro-organisms.

The study of bacteria in water, as affecting its use for drinking purposes, has received the attention of scientists in all our large cities.

The microscopic report of the New York city water, made by Dr. Smith E. Jelliffe and Karl M. Vogel, in the early part of last year, showed that eighty-one varieties of micro-organisms were found to inhabit the source of the water supply of that city, and yet, with all that, the water was found to be pure and wholesome, because it was found to be free from disease producing germs and not to contain a number of bacteria sufficient to justify a suspicion of it being contaminated by sewage.

An excessive number of bacteria in drinking water shows that the water contains a large amount of animal matter on which the micro-organisms feed. This leads to the natural conclusion that the excessive amount of organic food contained in the water may have come from dangerous sources. In such water we find pathogenic bacteria more likely to be present, as they can more readily multiply there, while in pure water they would find it very difficult to increase, and would die out in a short time. Quite a number of bacteria were found in rain water and snow that had been examined just after it had fallen. If the earth be dry and the atmosphere loaded with dust, according to Sternberg, we would find them more abundantly than if the atmosphere had been recently purified by rain.

The minimum number of bacteria found in the freshly fallen snow, by Ganowski, was 16,320 to the pint of water; from melted snow, the maximum was 97,440.

Miquel found that rain water collected in the city of Paris, after a series of experiments, contained 9,120 bacteria to the pint.

Fontin, at St. Petersburg, found that one pint of water, obtained from melted hail, contained 369,920 bacteria.

River waters, all over the world, have received much attention from bacteriologists during the past ten years. At periods of high waters, or overflows, there is great danger on account of surface contamination. The water of the Seine, before reaching Paris, was found by Miquel to contain 144,000 bacteria to the pint; at St. Denis, after receiving the sewer water from that city, it was found to contain 96,000,000 to the pint.

At Berlin, Koch found the water from above the mouth of the Panke to contain 451,000,000 bacteria to the pint; below the mouth of the Panke, 864,000,000.

The Thames, in the vicinity of London bridge, two hours after high water, was found by Bischoff to contain 21,600,000 bacteria to the pint.

Theobald Smith found the water of the Potomac, at Washington, to contain 1,795,520 bacteria to the pint.

Prudden found the ice taken from the Hudson river, six miles below the city of Albany, to contain 191,040 bacteria to the pint of water.

Sternberg concludes, after a series of experiments, that water containing 48,000 bacteria to the pint can be recommended as safe for drinking purposes, provided it be uncontaminated by surface drainage, and does not contain any specific disease producing germs and is free from injurious mineral substances.

Water containing 200,000 bacteria to the pint must be looked upon with suspicion; while water containing 280,000, or more, is presumed to be contaminated by sewage, and should be rejected, or filtered, before used for drinking purposes.

The Bacteriological Examination.

The bacteriological examination of Kansas City drinking water was conducted by the famous Koch's plate method. Many different species of bacteria were developed and isolated, chief among them being the micrococcus aquitilis, micrococcus versicolor, micrococcus aurantiacus, bacillus erythrosporus and the bacilli fluorescens. All of the above named species of bacteria are harmless and only become dangerous if contained in the water in such numbers as to indicate a contamination of the water by sewage.

The most important pathogenic bacilli, from a sanitary point of view, which are apt to find their way into our drinking water, are the bacilli of typhoid fever and cholera. These micro-organisms are present in the excreta of persons suffering from these diseases in vast numbers, and are liable to contaminate all streams that receive surface water. Epidemics of these diseases have been traced to the use of water contaminated by such excreta. In order to see whether typhoid fever germs, living in our drinking water alongside the other bacteria, are able to survive long in the struggle for existence, I added to a pure culture of the bacilli cultivated from the Missouri river water a few drops of a true typhoid bacilli culture and placed them in the incubator for twenty-four hours at the body temperature. At the end of that time a given quantity was injected into the blood of a rabbit. The rabbit was carefully observed for ten days, no evidence of typhoid fever infection was apparent, thus proving beyond doubt that the typhoid fever bacilli had all died before the time of the inoculation.

Corroborating this are the laboratory experiments of several investigators, who have demonstrated that an increase of this disease producting bacteria in drinking water is not likely to occur except under special conditions: that they die out after a time, being at a disadvantage in the struggle for existence. I ... leaving on among the numerous ... me about just as their normal habitat ... its.

Five se... were subjected to the aforementioned mode of examination, to find the numbers of bacteria per cubic centimeter each contained; figured out in pints, the results were as follows:

No. 1. Filtered hydrant water was found to contain 21,250 bacteria to the pint.

No. 2. Water taken from the hydrant at the laboratory, after allowing it to run for thirty minutes, was found to contain 43,200 bacteria to the pint.

No. 3. Water taken from the Missouri river one-half mile above our source of supply was found to contain 51,000 bacteria to the pint.

No. 4. Water taken from the Missouri river seven miles below our source of supply was found to contain 251,200 bacteria to the pint.

No. 5. Water taken from the Missouri river near the mouth of the Broadway sewer was found to contain 19,860,000 bacteria to the pint.

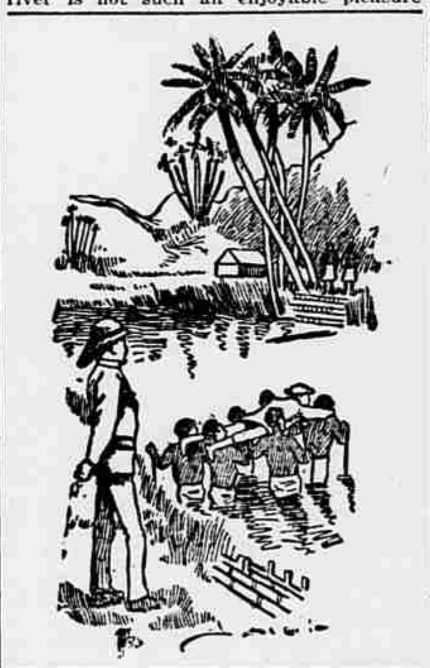
This leads to the conclusion that samples numbered 1, 2 and 3 may all be looked upon as safe for drinking purposes. No. 4 should be filtered, and No. 5 rejected for domestic purposes altogether. I injected a pure bouillon culture of each species of bacteria that was isolated into the peritoneal cavity of a guinea pig without fatal results, which tends to further prove that the hydrant water of our city, at the time these experiments were carried on, was pure and wholesome. No trace of typhoid fever germs were found, and despite the occasional complaints of its unsettled condition, Kansas City may congratulate itself on the fact that she has one of the most healthy sources of supply of any city in the world.

In the preparation of this article, the author has quoted freely from the valuable works of Sternberg, Jelliffe and Vogel, Prudden, Eisenberg, Von Jaksch and Cagney, Abbott, McFarland and Crookshank.

PRIMITIVE METHODS OF TRAVEL

A Missionary Bishop's Journey Through the South of India.

Travancore, except the main trunk roads, only possesses village roads which go as the crow flies, across streams and over hill and dale. To Europeans who have to travel in this country, the fording of a river is not such an enjoyable pleasure



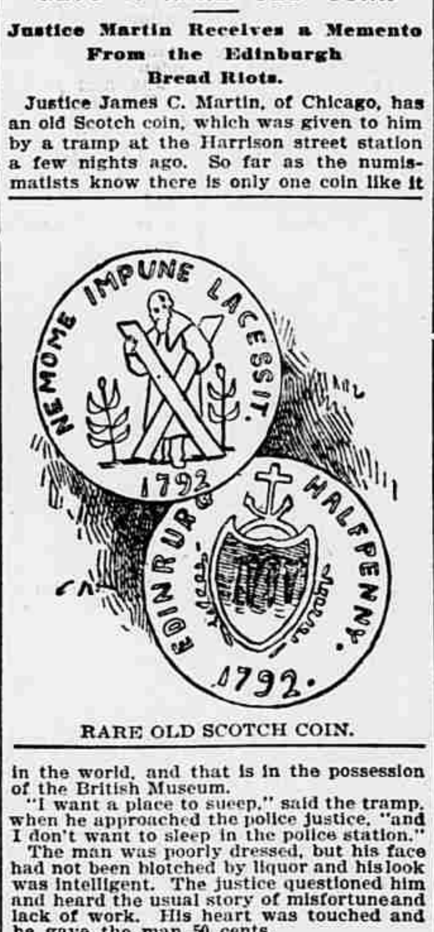
CROSSING A RIVER IN TRAVANCORE.

as it is to the natives; their clothes would no doubt dry quickly in the burning sun, but it is very possible they would contract malarial fever, not to say rheumatism, by following the example of the natives, off whose bodies the water runs as easily as off a duck's back. The illustration shows the bishop of Travancore and Cochin, while on tour, being carried across a stream by his coolies; his fellow-missionary is waiting his turn. "With our arms embracing the necks of the two front men, our legs carried behind by two others, with two more aiding as supports for fear we should break in two in the middle, we were carried across really deep places like logs," was the description given by one of the travelers.

GETS A RARE OLD COIN.

Justice Martin Receives a Memento From the Edinburgh Bread Riots.

Justice James C. Martin, of Chicago, has an old Scotch coin, which was given to him by a tramp at the Harrison street station a few nights ago. So far as the numismatists know there is only one coin like it



RARE OLD SCOTCH COIN.

in the world, and that is in the possession of the British Museum.

"I want a place to sueep," said the tramp, when he approached the police justice, "and I don't want to sleep in the police station."

The man was poorly dressed, but his face had not been blotched by liquor and his look was intelligent. The justice questioned him and heard the usual story of misfortune and lack of work. His heart was touched and he gave the man 50 cents.

"God bless you," said the tramp. "Take this coin and may it bring you better luck than it has me."

With that he handed the small piece of money to the justice. Martin put it in his pocket and did not examine it until the next day. Then he saw it was one of the famous coins issued by the city of Edinburgh during the bread riots of 1792. It was good for provisions at the store of John and Alexander Thompson, merchants and ship chandlers. One side bears the cross of St. Andrew and the other is emblazoned with the coat of arms of the city of Edinburgh.

The coin is of great value. Numismatists do not know how much it is worth, as, from the fact that only one was known to be in existence, no quotation was ever made. After the riots were quelled the city of Edinburgh redeemed all the coins and melted them down. It was supposed that all were destroyed except the one in the British Museum.

Justice Martin was offered $250 for the coin a few days ago, but he declined to part with it. He is looking for the tramp who gave it to him in order to return it to him.

WEBS WOVEN INTO A NET.

Balloon Covering Being Made From Threads Spun by Spiders.

From the Philadelphia Record.

According to the Paris Temps' correspondent at Antananarivo, a special fine net, made entirely of spiders' webs, is being manufactured in the professional school at Antananarivo. The process is a very simple one. The thread of several dozen spiders is wound on winders, the quantity produced by each spider ranging from fifteen to forty yards. The covering of the web is removed by repeated washings, and the web made into a thread of eight strands. When the thread is spun, it is easily woven into a gauze, which is very fine but very strong. It is to be used for an experimental covering of a navigable balloon by Mr. Renard, the head of the French military balloon school at Chalais, near Paris, who has been engaged for many years in experimenting in aerial navigation. It is believed that the difference in the weight of an ordinary spiders' web net will make a great improvement.

Counteracting Influence.

From the Detroit Free Press.

"Why do you persist in visiting Mrs. Jawley when she always says something to hurt your feelings?" asked Slims of his gentle wife.

"Because I'm so happy to get home again that it more than repays me."

WIRE FOR THE KLONDIKE.

IT WILL BE THE FIRST INTO THE NEW ELDORADO.

The Total Length of the Main Line From Quesnelle to Dawson City Will Be 1,423 Miles, With Two Branches.

The route for the first telegraph line into the Klondike Eldorado has just been decided upon, and by the middle of next summer the line will be open for business.

In reality the actual work has begun, and the surveyors have already accomplished a good deal betwen Quesnelle and Fort Fraser—where the first section of the new line is located. Not since 1866, when the Western Union Telegraph Company made its famous attempt to connect Asia and the United States, has a telegraph surveyor been seen in the country through which the new line will run, until the present party in the field began its journey.

The total length of the main line from Quesnelle to Dawson City will be 1,423 miles. There will be a branch line constructed to Juneau, Alaska, eighty-five miles in length, and another branch to Dyea, which will be seventy miles long. The company estimates that the total cost of the line and its branches will be in the vicinity of $100,000. Of course, this total cost will depend largely on the difficulties met with in the survey and construction, for a considerable portion of the route is unknown in detail. The estimate given, however, is intended to cover an increase over the figures originally computed, an ample allowance having been made for emergencies.

Telegraphic communication with the world exists as far north as Quesnelle in British Columbia, which is some 350 miles north-by-northwest of Seattle. This is the reason for its being chosen as the point of beginning. From Quesnelle the line will run northwest, the principal points on the route being as follows: Fort Fraser, 135 miles distant; Hazleton, 200 miles farther on; Telegraph Creek, 310 miles; head of Lake Atlin, 240; Teslin River, 178; Big Salmon River, 34; Little Salmon River, 36; Five Finger Rapids, 59; Pelly River, 59; White River, 36; Sixty Mile River, 31; Dawson City, 46, a total of 1,423 miles.

While the places mentioned are the principal points on the line, Mr. Hosmer states it is the intention of the company to establish stations every four miles. The line will to a certain extent be a government affair, and it is expected it will be utilized very largely by the mounted police in their communications. In fact, the Canadian government has really been acting in concert with the company, and the selection of the route is in great measure due to the preference expressed by the authorities.

The difficulties of construction are not so great with this line as might be imagined. Before making the selection of route the knowledge of men who are familiar with the country was called into requisition and combined with the information furnished by a party of men, who at the instance of the company, took a prospecting trip some months before there was danger of sources of knowedge being shut off by winter. This latter party, Mr. Hosmer states, discovered that a fairly direct line could be built and still a great portion of the anticipated difficulties avoided.

PHENOMENA OF SLEEP.

Experiments Have Proved That the Nerves Are Awake During Slumber.

From the London Times.

Considerable attention has been paid of late years to the matter of the processes which occur in sleep, and some definite results have been obtained by modern experimental science. It has long been known that respiration and the action of the heart are both modified in sleep. Breathing is slower and shallower, and the amount of carbonic acid eliminated is less than in the waking state. The pulse is also slower.

But Morso and the other observers have recently shown that more profound changes take place. The character as well as the depth of the respiration is altered, and the circulation undergoes an important modification, which changes the distribution of blood in the body. The limbs are found to increase in volume, owing to the relaxation of the blood vessels in the skin, which permits a larger flow of blood over the surface of the body. This quite accords with the common experience of a lessened power to resist cold during sleep. The blood is more distributed in the skin, and therefore more exposure to chills. At the same time this relaxation of the cutaneous vessels causes a general fall of arterial pressure by diminishing the resistance. The result is a lessened flow through the brain which shrinks in volume.

This has been corroborated by the direct observation and measurement of brains exposed by injuries to the head. It is found that they always contract and grow pale as sleep comes on, regaining their color and size at the moment of awakening. Additional proof is afforded by Morso's ingenious balance, which permits a subject to go to sleep when lying horizontally in a state of perfect equilibrium. In sleep the head tips up and feet go down, indicating the distribution of blood in that direction. Awakening is accompanied by the reverse.

The same experiments have also proved that the nerves of sense are awake during sleep. They transmit impulses to the brain and recall it to activity. Thus a sound or a light will cause the pale, anaemic brain of the sleeper to flush, and tips down the head end of the balance, and it does this before the sleeper awakens, even without awakening him if the stimulus be only slight. These observations show very prettily how the senses keep watch for the sleeping brain and how awaking is effected. They also show that sleep does not affect the whole body.

A MODEL KLONDIKE COSTUME

Sketch of a Fair Prospector, Who Is Known as "the Best Dressed Woman on the Yukon."

Lillian Lemmon is her name, and she will doubtless go down to posterity as the best dressed woman in the Klondike. Her future fame is secured by the care with which she has chosen her costumes for the Yukon, but her present place may not be as secure. Elegant prospecting costumes will doubtless cause as much of a flutter, as much of heart-soreness and jealousy in the Klondike as anywhere else, and so, perhaps, Miss Lemmon's lot is not to be quite a peaceful one.

Miss Lemmon's Klondike winter costume consists of the heaviest woolen undergarments procurable, two or three pairs of woolen stockings, leather boots, sweater, loose trousers and jacket of bearskin and a huge hood of the same. Chamois vests and jackets will help to keep out the biting Alaska cold. Extra trousers will be worn whenever the weather demands it.

LILLIAN LEMMON IN HER KLONDIKE COSTUME.

No Danger of Degeneracy.

From the Lancaster New Era.

So long as the inventive genius of our people continues to grow and expand we need have no apprehensions as to our mental degeneration or decay. During the past year of 1897 nearly 48,000 applications for patents were received, or more than 150 for every working day in the entire year. This is about 4,000 in excess of the largest number of applications in any previous year.

Didn't Bite.

From the Detroit Free Press.

"Why, Mr. Cornsilk, I used to know you at Pawnee. How are you?" and the confidence man extended his hand.

"Right peart," answered Uncle Silas as he pushed on. "Come up to Pawnee ag'in and you'll know me a good deal better."

ALL ABOUT SLEEPWALKERS.

Some Very Narrow Escapes and Some Cures That Proved to Be Effective.

From the Hartford Courant.

The mention of a sleepwalker standing upon the street railway track the other night and barely escaping being run down has brought to the minds of many people incidents in this line that have come under their observation, and it is simply astonishing how general is this habit.

One person mentions the case of a member of the household who was found wandering about on the housetop, all unmindful of his danger, while the observer was at his wits' end to know how to get him in before he should make a misstep and fall to the ground. Usually the eyes of the somnambulist are wide open, and now and then a story indicates that the vision must be fairly good at times.

For instance, a gentleman remembers that when he was a young man an acquaintance was badly given to the habit, and he would often go out into the yard and wander about. One night a number of them lay in ambush for him just to watch his operations. By and by the door opened in a business-like way and out came the young man. He went straightway across the street into a lot where there was a nut tree and proceeded to pick up nuts and put them in a pile.

A few moments at this task, then he started toward the house. In spanning the fence he made a misstep and fell. This awakened him, and while he was in the first act of collecting his thoughts he saw in the darkness the young men who were watching him. Just at that time their appearance so startled him that he fled like a deer. The circumstance was so impressed upon his mind that he never afterward indulged in the habit.

A gentleman told an amusing incident that happened in his early life. He was sure that he could not have been more than 5 or 6 years old at the time. He often found himself at the far end of the long, unfinished chamber where he slept, and usually could not awake sufficiently to find his way to bed again, so one or the other of his parents would hear him crying and come to his rescue.

Naturally, they got a little tired of the bother, and no one should be blamed for what followed. As stated, the chamber was an unfinished one, and in place of the guard rail at the danger end of the stairway a number of barrels had been placed.

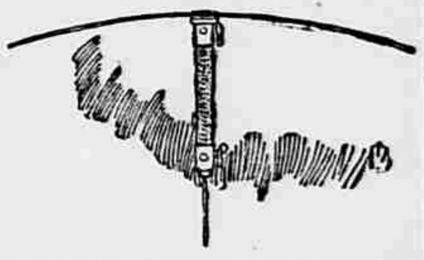
When the night's somnambulistic tour culminated that left a lasting impression on his mind, as well as his body—he was near those barrels, and it seemed had been struggling to get through between them when he must surely have been killed by falling down the stairs. The noise aroused the parents, and on this memorable occasion the father visited the chamber and just in time to save the lad from getting through. He was on his hands and knees pushing through, and the opportunity for administering the usual punishment of those days could not have been better arranged to order.

"Talk about spankings," said the relator; "why, that must have been forty years and more ago, but I can feel the sting as if it were last night! But it cured me, you may be sure."

KIDD'S GOLD MAY BE FOUND.

A Machine for Locating Gold and Silver Invented by Two New Jersey Citizens.

A test was made the other day in locating gold by the men who have been seeking for Captain Kidd's hidden treasure in the Delaware river. Owing to the unfavorable comments that have been made in regard to this matter and the skepticism that has existed concerning the same, William H. Anderson and Dr. Samuel Caley invited a number of prominent citizens of Mount Holly, N. J., to witness the actions



INSTRUMENT WHICH IS EXPECTED TO REVEAL LOST TREASURES.

of the instrument that was employed in locating the pirate's treasure. Those who were present have every reason to believe that the instrument will do just what is is represented to do, and its performances were certainly amazing. It will not weigh one pound, and the combined strength of two stalwart men could not hold it in check when it was moving in response to the location of hidden treasure. This fact was fully demonstrated time and again by those men, who could hardly believe what they saw. Every person present examined the machine and made various tests. When not in range of a greater quantity of gold the machine would move backward until it struck the operator's face, being drawn there by his watch and chain.

But a practical demonstration was given both in the house of Mr. Anderson and out in his yard, and then a mile or two away in the woods. Dr. Caley put over $250 in gold on a table and all the gold watches present were placed with it. When the instrument was adjusted in the hands of Mr. Anderson he requested another gentleman to hold on to the handles with him, and offered to give the contents of the table to him if he could prevent the machine from falling forty-five degrees when it came in range of the gold. But this could not be done. Once in line, it began to descend gradually, in spite of the efforts to stop it. A demonstration was then given to show that it would detect the presence of silver as well as gold.

The next illustration occured in the yard, where the gold was buried in an iron pot three feet under ground. It was located there as easily as in the house. Then the guests rambled through Ashhurst's woods, stopping at various times to make further tests, as it was not known whether the amount of gold buried was sufficient in quantitq to attract the machine one-half mile away. But it did so. Arriving at the extreme end of this piece of woods, which is over a mile from Fountain square, the instrument was again brought to bear, and the first thing it located was the three banks in Mount Holly and then the buried pot. This was considered to be a remarkable performance and clearly proves the virtue of the machine. These tests were also made while Mr. Anderson was blindfolded.

After returning to the house, William... sight was again obscured, and in this manner he was requested to point out the exa... spot where the money and watches h... been buried, and he did so, the force... pulling of the machine taking him direc... to the place.

This is the first time the public has b... permitted to look at this machine, wh... on account of its simplicity, is certa... something wonderful, and those who w... present now have a better understan... of the belief existing in the treasure ... has been unsuccessfully sought for in ... Delaware river. Those interested in ... scheme believe that the treasure box i... water has been removed by those emp... to raise it for them, but to definitely a... tain this fact another test will be ma... the location with this instrument.

"What is the trouble, Maggie? Yo... worried." "Sure, an' the trouble i... the twins, mum. One of them is ... because he swallowed his rattle a... other is howlin' out of sympathy ... twixt the two of them bawlin' I c... which swallowed the rattle."—... Bazar.

A PILGRIMAGE TO JORDAN.

ANNUAL EXODUS OF RUSSIANS FOR THE HOLY LAND.

Water Considered Sacred—Simple-Minded Peasants Who Bathe in the Historic Stream Quite Unmindful of Curious Spectators.

The Russian peasantry have a strong belief in the sacred properties of the waters of Jordan, says the London Graphic. Nothing but Jordan waters must be used for baptism, and to be buried in shrouds which have been made from linen which has been dipped in the Jordan, or, still better, in which the wearer has bathed in the Jordan, is extremely desirable.

So strong is this feeling that an annual exodus of pilgrims sets out for Palestine. Hospices have been built throughout Russia and at Jerusalem, where the pilgrims have free accommodation for a period not exceeding twelve months. They walk from all parts of Russia some of them even as far as the White sea, to Odessa, where they take steamer for Jaffa. Thence on to Jerusalem, where they wait until the Saturday before Epiphany. On that day both men and women walk in thousands down the twenty miles of continually descending road to Jericho, where they camp for the night.

On the Sunday the whole troop, headed by their bishop, go on to the Jordan, and after the bishop has blessed the waters they fill bottles, tin kettles, and, in fact, any available vessel with Jordan water, and most of them, men and women alike, taking no notice whatever of the thousands of Arabs, Jews, Greeks, Mohammedans, and even English and American tourists with cameras who are there, calmly divest themselves of clothing, and, putting on their shrouds and crossing themselves three times, stumble placidly down the muddy river bank in the cold waters of the Jordan.

There is a strong contrast between the broad, simple, honest-looking countenances of the Russians and the keen and crafty faces of the wily Arabs by whom they are surrounded. There is a surprise and a pleasure in hearing for the first time the sweet and tuneful voices with which the pilgrims reverently chant their service, each taking his or her own part, and producing a weird and beautiful melody which will long dwell in the memory of those who heard it.

As the Brook Cherith, memorable as the spot wher Elijah was fed by ravens, an Arab, with a view to the main chance, has provided a plank, for the use of which he demands toll. Much to his disgust, however, the pilgrims prefer to wade the stream.

In the illustration the pilgrims may be seen crowding to the river bank after the blessing of the water to collect water for baptisms, and to dip new linen, which will afterwards be made into shrouds, into the sacred waters.

RUSSIAN PILGRIMS COLLECTING WATER FROM THE JORDAN.

FORTUNE FOR A VASE.

Celebrated Pieces of China and Their Owners—Mr. Jones' Collection.

Ten thousand guineas paid by the Earl of Dudley for an antique vase and ewer of early Sevres china was the largest sum ever paid for a vase, says London Tit-Bits. It was afterward sold to Baron Shroder for 8,000 guineas. Five thousand guineas was paid at the sale of the Lynes-Stevens collection, in 1895, for an oviform vase of old Sevres porcelain painted with horsemen and figures, after Wouvermans, and a trophy of arms in two medallions with fluted neck and handles formed as gilt figures of boys, by Dodin and Morin, 15¾ inches high; the price included a pair of oviform, flat-shaped vases of comparatively small value, apart from the one above described, the three being one set, which formed part of the Earl of Pembroke's collection.

In Mr. Jones' collection of pottery and porcelain, at the South Kensington museum, there is an egg-shaped Gros Blue Sevres vase with medallions of Cupid and Psyche, which was acquired for 3,000 guineas. The celebrated Barberini or Portland vase, now preserved in the gold chamber of the British Museum, was purchased by Sir W. Hamilton for £1,000, and afterwards sold to the Duchess of Portland for £1,800. An historic vase was recently put under the hammer at Christie's. It was one of a pair presented to the Marquis of Montcalm (the defender of Quebec) by Louis XV. The first bid for the splendid work of art was £65. One of the largest vases in the world is a present from the late czar to the city of Paris. It is made from an immense block of jasper, is eight feet high, and is valued at £1,500.

A OLD FIRE ENGINE.

It Is Claimed to Be the Most Ancient One in America—Built Prior to 1764.

The residents of Germantown, Pa., are justly proud of its historic associations. The house in which Washington lived, with small paned windows, remains as it was when he occupied it, and the building which Lord Howe resided while in command of the British troops is still unaltered.

Carefully preserved is the ship's bell, which rang its merry chimes to thousands of residents as the first tea was imported to this country. These and many other historic mementoes are treasured with a fondness and pride born of love—love of historic treasures which will go down the ages, reminding all of the fierce battles for national freedom.

OLDEST FIRE ENGINE IN AMERICA.

In addition to these Germantown can also boast of having the oldest fire engine in America. This engine is a decided curiosity, and is named the "Shag-Rag," after its makers—Nesham & Rag, a London firm of engine and boilermakers, which existed in the seventeenth century. The "Shag-Rag" was built prior to 1764. From the records of the Middle Ward Fire Company, now in possession of William H. Emhardt, 5521 Germantown avenue, it is proved beyond any doubt that this engine was purchased by the Middle Ward Fire Company and arrived in America early in 1764. The engine has been in Mr. Emhardt's keeping since 1874.

When the engine was bought a portion of the money was paid in advance and the remainder after the delivery and testing of the engine.